(c) whether it is also a fact that this project is assisted by Indo-German bilateral (development) cooperation; and

(d) by when this project is likely to be sanctioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The detailed project report of Pench Diversion Project in Chhindwara district of Madhya Pradesh submitted to Central Water Commission by the Government of Madhya Pradesh is under appraisal. After establishing the techno-economic viability of the project, the project proposal will be put up to the Advisory Committee of Ministry of Water Resources for acceptance and thereafter for investment approval by the Planning Commission. The clearance of the project depends upon the promptness with which the State Government comply with the observations of the Central appraising agencies.

(c) and (d) The above said project is not assisted under Indo-German Bilateral Development Cooperation Programme. However, the Government of Madhya Pradesh have identified project including Pench Project for consideration under Indo-German Bilateral Development Cooperation. The Government of Madhya Pradesh has been advised to furnish necessary details for processing the case for seeking external funding.

Ganga water plans

†4322. SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state.

(a) whether the water of Ganga has become so contaminated that Government have to spend lakh of rupees daily to make it potable;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have any plan for its permanent solution, and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (d) On the basis of comprehensive survey of Ganga Basin carried out the Central Pollution Control Board, the Ministry of Environment & Forests implemented 'Ganga Action Plan, Phase-I' with sanctioned cost of Rs. 462 crore in 1984. The Ganga Action Plan, Phase-II also taken up in two stages in 1994 and 1996 respectively by Ministry of Environment & Forests. The

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

estimate cost of Ganga Action Plan, Phase-II is Rs. 652 89 crore The Ganga Action Plan, Phase-II is in progress.

Task force on flood management and erosion control

4323. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI.

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state

(a) whether the Task Force on flood management and erosion control has recommended levy of one to two per cent on new infrastructures such as roads, building and power plants in the flood prone States for creating a revolving fund of around Rs. 50 crores for emergent flood management schemes;

(b) if so, whether they have pointed out that fund may be kept at the disposal of Ministry;

(c) whether the Task Force was set up at behest of PM to examine causes of recurring floods and erosion in Assam and other neighbouring States;

(d) whether this Task Force has submitted its report; and

(e) if so, what are the main recommendations made and what steps are being taken to implement them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Task Force on flood management and erosion control which was set up by the Government of India under the Chairmanship of Chairman, Central Water Commission has recommended that a revolving fund of Rs 50.00 crore be made available with the Ministry of Water Resources to take up urgent flood control schemes, especially at the end of the flood season and to mobilize resources for this, a "flood cess" of say 1 to 2 per cent can be levied on all new infrastructure works like roads, buildings, power plants etc. in the flood prone States.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Other main recommendations of the Task Force are increase in plan funds for flood management, provide assistance for maintenance of emabankments, institutional arrangements and outlining immediate, short term and long term measures for flood management.